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*Governor*

State of Alabama  
Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention  
*"The Children's Trust Fund"*

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Sallye R. Longshore  
*Executive Director*

March 16, 2015

Dear Community Friends,

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month! This year we are encouraging all communities across Alabama to honor "Child Abuse Prevention Month" as we create an awareness of preventing child maltreatment across our communities. The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (ADCANP), "The Children's Trust Fund of Alabama" and Prevent Child Abuse Alabama invite every community to take action for children by encouraging businesses and schools throughout Alabama to place blue ribbons on their doors during the month of April. The blue ribbon is the international sign for child abuse prevention and serves as a constant reminder that all of us have a responsibility to help keep children safe. We also encourage you to use the Prevent Child Abuse America "Pinwheels for Prevention" available through their website.

On April 10, 2015, we are asking everyone to wear blue in recognition of child abuse prevention. Through your actions of support, "The Children's Trust Fund" will continue to encourage, support and fund community-based programs whose purpose is to prevent maltreatment and strengthen families. Our agency currently funds 139 grantees across the state. We will release our new RFP April 1, 2015 through our website at <http://ctf.alabama.gov>.

Please take time to write a letter to your Legislators letting them know the wonderful things you are doing in their district with funding from the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention. We want our Legislators to know that any extra funding available will go right back into Alabama communities to support programs that prevent child abuse and neglect.

We can't wait to learn about all the exciting activities you are planning for April. Please email Dawn Miller at [dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov](mailto:dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov) with your pictures as you promote an awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention in your community.

My warmest regards,

Sallye R. Longshore  
Executive Director

## PRESS RELEASE

**For: Immediate Release**

**Contact:**

**The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention**

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### **We All Can Play a Part in Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect**

*April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month*

**Montgomery, Alabama** – April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. This month and throughout the year, the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (ADCANP), also known as *the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) of Alabama*, encourages all individuals and organizations to help in making the State of Alabama a better place for children and families. By ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for their children, we can help promote children's social and emotional well-being and prevent child maltreatment within families and communities.

"April is a time to celebrate the important role that communities play in protecting children," said Sallye Longshore, Executive Director. "Everyone's participation is critical." Funding is available to those agencies who administer programs in their area to prevent child abuse and neglect. Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>, Grant Applications will be available on their website at <http://ctf.alabama.gov>. Funding will be awarded to eligible entities through a competitive grant process for organizations seeking to establish programs that **prevent child abuse and neglect** in their respective areas. The Department has also released the Request for Proposal (RFP) on the Department's website which provides all regulatory requirements and a timeline of related expectations. Grant Applications will be accepted online only until Friday, May 8, 2015 5:00 p.m. CST. There are no exceptions to this deadline or procedure.

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**Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (ADCANP)**

*The Children's Trust Fund*

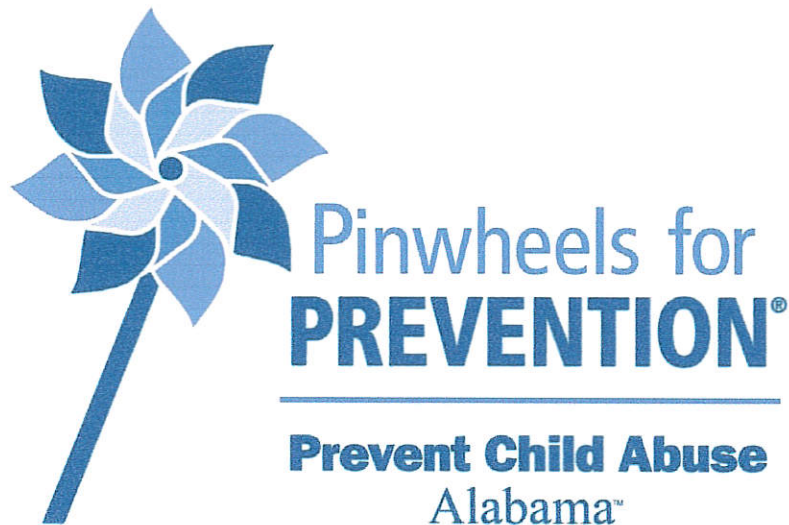
60 Commerce Street

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Montgomery, AL 36104

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# Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention



## Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention TOOLKIT 2015



*Celebrating 32 years of Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect*



## **Suggestions to Celebrate Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention in YOUR Community**

**Proclamation**-Designate local representatives from your community to sign and present a proclamation to initiate the month long focus on child abuse and neglect prevention. We have attached a sample Mayor's Proclamation.

**Blue Ribbon Awareness Campaign**-Write a letter to local schools, business, churches, as well as, other agency partners and supporters to encourage them to display a blue bow on their doors or around trees the month of April. Send a campaign letter to explain the purpose of displaying Blue Bows on doors or around trees to recognize the importance of preventing child abuse and neglect through the community.

**Open House**-Agencies are encouraged to conduct an Open House to promote their role in child abuse and neglect prevention and to allow others to see the importance of your great mission.

**THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO INVITE YOUR LEGISLATORS!**

Remember your legislators are home every Friday through Monday during the legislative session. As always please send any photos from this event for us to include on our website.

**School Poster Contest**-Encourage schools to participate in a local poster contest to promote Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention. Provide a theme to schools such as "Things Families Enjoy Doing Together." Our goal is to create an awareness of the importance of child abuse and neglect and prevention. Through strengthening families we hope to prevent child abuse and neglect in Alabama. Ask local businesses to participate in your efforts by donating prizes for first, second and third place posters.

**Speeches/Presentations**-Ask to speak at local civic or church groups about child abuse and neglect prevention to promote awareness and support throughout the community.

**Media**-Contact your local radio station and newspaper to recognize that April is Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and an opportunity to create awareness throughout Alabama. If you are on Facebook or Twitter please contact your Legislators so that they can join our group and receive updates. We have attached sample press releases and public service announcements.

**Local Business Display**-Ask local businesses to display some form of recognition that the month of April is Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month. They can display information on marquee signs, posters, flyers, newsletters, or paint a BLUE message on their window front proclaiming "April is Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month."

**Wear Blue Day**-Encourage schools, churches and local businesses to wear BLUE on April 10, 2015. Spread the word all over town!!!

**Light the Town Blue**-If available, get permission from local officials to cover outside lights with blue film on a selected night in recognition of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month.

**Blue Fountain**-Ask local officials if it would be possible to dye the water blue in your local fountains. If they do not want you to dye the water ask if they will cover the light blue instead.

**Pinwheels**-Create a pinwheel garden to remind others of what the pinwheels represent, which is the chance of a healthy, happy and full life that all children in Alabama deserve. Remember if you are referring to Pinwheels for Prevention®, you must use the pinwheels purchased from Prevent Child Abuse America.

Please email Dawn Miller at [dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov](mailto:dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov) with any photos from your events to that we can add them to our newsletter and website.

Thank you for all that you do to help the month of April become a huge success in Alabama!!!

## **PREVENT CHILD ABUSE (PCA) ALABAMA**

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention is the Alabama Chapter for Prevent Child Abuse America which was established May 18, 2007. The Department and PCA America share the common mission to prevent child abuse and neglect before it occurs. PCA Alabama and the Department also share the same focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect in many of the activities they support and implement:

- Parenting education and support
- Public/community awareness
- Home visitation
- Mentoring
- School-based programming
- After-school activities
- Respite care
- Child Abuse Prevention Month activities

In prevention and early intervention services, collaboration is essential to maximize effective use of resources and eliminating duplication of efforts. The collaboration with the Department provides PCA Alabama with a means to share information on educational initiatives and community involvement to bring increased awareness to the prevention of child abuse and neglect for the children in Alabama.

## SAMPLE LETTER TO MAYOR

2015

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[Date]

[Name & Address]

Dear Mayor [Name],

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (*The Children's Trust Fund*) advocates for children across the State of Alabama. As Mayor of [local community], we are asking for your help by proclaiming April as Child Abuse Prevention month in our community. Child Abuse Prevention month has been observed each April since its first presidential proclamation in 1983. Since that time, individuals and organizations have joined together during April to raise the public's awareness of child abuse and the need for its prevention.

Please help [name of local organization] to promote and support safe, healthy families so we can end child abuse and neglect in the State of Alabama. April's observance and particularly your proclamation – of Child Abuse Prevention month stands to remind us all of the collective responsibility we have to protect children here in [local community].

Through this proclamation, we want to encourage local businesses, agencies, churches and schools to place blue bows on their doors to promote an awareness of the importance of child abuse and neglect prevention in [local community].

With much appreciation,

[Signature]

[Name, title, organization]

## Sample Proclamation

### *Child Abuse Prevention Month 2015*

WHEREAS, Alabama's future prosperity depends on nurturing the healthy development of over 4 million children currently living, growing and learning within our many diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, research shows that safe and nurturing relationships and stimulating and stable environments improve brain development and child well being, while neglectful or abusive experiences and unstable or stressful environments increase the odds of poor childhood outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the abuse and neglect of children can cause severe, costly and lifelong problems affecting all of society, including physical and mental health problems, school failure and criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, research also shows that parents and caregivers who have social networks and know how to seek help in times of trouble are more resilient and better able to provide safe environments and nurturing experiences for their children; and

WHEREAS, individuals, businesses, schools, and faith-based and community organizations must make children a top priority and take action to support the physical, social, emotional and educational development and competency of all children; and

WHEREAS, during the month of April, Prevent Child Abuse Alabama in collaboration with the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention will be engaging communities throughout Alabama in a coordinated effort to prevent child abuse and neglect by promoting awareness of healthy child development, positive parenting practices and the types of concrete support families need within their communities,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NAME OF OFFICIAL, TITLE, do hereby proclaim April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and urge all residents to engage in activities whose purpose is to strengthen families and communities to provide the optimal environment for healthy child development.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the [FILL IN THE BLANK] to be affixed at XXXXXXXXXXXXX, the Capital, this XX day of Month in the year SPELL OUT YEAR.



## SAMPLE TALKING POINTS

- Lawns at businesses, schools and public offices across Alabama will be planted with pinwheel gardens throughout April in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- The pinwheel represents Prevent Child Abuse Alabama's efforts to change the way our state approaches the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- The campaign focuses on community activities and public policies that prioritize healthy child development right from the start, before abuse and neglect ever begins.
- Pinwheels for Prevention reminds us of our on-going responsibility to ensure that every child has the equal opportunity for healthy growth and development.
- The future prosperity of our society depends on the ability of our children to achieve their full potential, which is why we must make investments in their healthy development our number one priority.
- When we fail to provide the resources children and families need, children are at increased risk of exposure to extreme and sustained stress like child abuse and neglect, which can interfere with healthy brain development and result in learning and behavioral problems and long-term physical and mental illness.
- When the entire community takes responsibility for creating healthy environments in which to raise our children, we lay the foundation for long-term community prosperity.
- Getting prevention right early is less costly to society and to individuals than trying to fix things later.
- Together, we can ensure a brighter future for our children and a prosperous future for our community.

## SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Dear Editor:

As we recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, I invite you to become a part of the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign, a national movement to change the way we approach prevention in our community.

The pinwheels planted in our community during April symbolize the happy healthy childhoods all children deserve. They also remind us of our ongoing responsibility to ensure every child has an equal opportunity for healthy growth and development.

You can learn about healthy child development and how you can help prevent child abuse and neglect in our community by visiting the Pinwheels for Prevention page at <http://ctf.alabama.gov/>.

Whether our children will achieve their full potential as healthy, productive members of our community depends largely on each of us. Learn about the needs of children and families in our community, get involved in their lives and speak up on their behalf. Together we can build a bright and prosperous future - one child at a time.

Sincerely,

[your name here]

***Pinwheels for Prevention Promotes the Benefits of Investing in Healthy Child Development***

You may have noticed displays of blue and silver pinwheels popping up around our community this month. Communities throughout Alabama and across the nation are creating similar displays as part of *Pinwheels for Prevention*, a national movement to change the way we approach the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

We all know that today's children are our future leaders, parents and workers. Their well-being affects the future safety and prosperity of our entire community. Yet too many of our children continue to live in neglectful or abusive environments that are toxic to healthy brain development and lead to learning and behavioral problems and long-term physical and mental illness.

If we truly want to strengthen our community and turn our economy around, prevention must become a priority for every individual.

During Child Abuse Prevention Month, [local community partners/organizations] [is/are] working with Prevent Child Abuse Alabama to promote community activities and public policies that support healthy child development so that child abuse and neglect never begins. [Describe local activities or initiatives here in 100 words or less].

We all have a role to play in ensuring every child in our community has an equal opportunity for health growth and development. You can be a part of the solution by learning about the needs of children and families in our community, speaking out on behalf of children's issues, advocating for the expansion of proven prevention programs that work to prevent child abuse and neglect, and supporting family or friends who are under stress.

To learn about healthy child development and more ways you can help prevent child abuse and neglect in your community, visit the Pinwheels for Prevention page at <http://ctf.alabama.gov/>. Together we can build a bright and prosperous future for Alabama- one child at a time.

## SAMPLE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS (PSA's)

2015

### *April is Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month!*

#### PSA #1

[30-second public service announcement aimed at building community involvement, including 10-second tag for local organization identity]

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**Voiceover (:20 sec.):** By working together as a community, we all can play a part in promoting children's emotional well-being and strengthening families.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. During this month and throughout the year, **[Insert Organization Name]** is dedicated to supporting families and reducing the risk of child abuse and neglect.

Find out how you can play a part in creating positive change in our community.

**Tag: (:10 sec.):** This message is brought to you by **[Insert Organization Name]** and the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, Prevent Child Abuse Alabama Chapter.

#### PSA #2

[30-second public service announcement aimed at building parent and caregiver awareness, including 10-second tag for local organization identity]

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**Voiceover (:20 sec.):** Being the best parent you can be involves taking steps to strengthen your family and finding support when you need it. Parenting isn't something you have to do alone.

When you have the knowledge, skills, and resources you need, you can raise a happy, healthy child. Find out more about activities and programs in your community that support parents and promote healthy families.

**Tag: (:10 sec.):** This message is brought to you by **[Insert Organization Name]** and the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, Prevent Child Abuse Alabama Chapter.



## Sample Blog Entries

1. Prevent Child Abuse America's national signature campaign, Pinwheels for Prevention®, is based on the belief that every day is an opportunity for you to recognize that we all play a role in the lives of children.

As our nation recognizes April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, let's take this time to recognize the various roles we can play:

- Educate: Learn more and educate others about healthy child development and child abuse prevention; become a messenger for prevention.
- Advocate: Lend your voice to bring about change for children in the U.S. and affect the policies that impact children and the communities in which they live.
- Participate: Volunteer your time and talent to organizations that focus on children, their families and the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- Donate: Make financial gifts to support these efforts.

To learn more please visit <http://ctf.alabama.gov/>.

2. During Child Abuse Prevention Month we need to recognize that every investment in healthy child development is an investment in community and economic development.

Research shows a strong correlation between child abuse and neglect and debilitating and chronic health consequences. The *Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACE)* ([www.acestudy.org](http://www.acestudy.org)), conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in collaboration with Kaiser Permanente's Health Appraisal Clinic in San Diego, found that individuals who experienced child maltreatment were more likely to engage in risky behavior, such as smoking, substance abuse and sexual promiscuity, and to suffer from adverse health effects such as obesity and certain chronic diseases.

Further, Prevent Child Abuse America estimates that implementing effective policies and strategies to prevent child abuse and neglect can save taxpayers \$104 billion per year. The cost of not doing so includes more than \$33 billion in direct costs for foster care services, hospitalization, mental health treatment and law enforcement. Indirect costs of over \$70 billion include loss of productivity, as well as expenditures related to chronic health problems, special education and the criminal justice system.

As these studies demonstrate, getting prevention right early is less costly to society, and to individuals, than trying to fix things later.

3. Our ability to thrive as a society depends on how well we foster the health and well-being of the next generation. We know that there are many innovative child development efforts

being implemented around the country, such as services that focus on preventing shaken baby syndrome, supporting parents and caring adults in their role of ensuring children's safety, and home visitation services. We also know that we can do better. A focus on innovative and needed services lays the foundation for children's healthy growth and development, which reduces the potential for developing more serious and costly problems. During Child Abuse Prevention Month we need to ask ourselves how we can be a part of bring effective child abuse prevention efforts to scale.

4. With Child Abuse Prevention Month upon us, we are reminded of what an ancient philosopher once wrote: "There is only one time when it is essential to awaken. That time is now." Which is why we want leverage the impact of Pinwheels for Prevention to talk about a larger effort we are part of, and that we hope everyone will participate in – the National Movement for America's Children.

It is the most fundamental obligation of our nation to support the healthy development of each and every child. Now is the time for this commitment to truly become our top national priority. We all know that today's children are America's future leaders, parents and workers.

We also now know how we can each help prevent child abuse and neglect from ever occurring. And with the National Movement for America's Children, Americans everywhere, from leaders in government and business to people in communities across the country, are awakening to the role we each can play in ensuring all children have an equal opportunity for growth and development. We are advocating for the expansion of innovative programming such as home visiting services, increased funding for the prevention of shaken baby syndrome, child-friendly workplaces and comprehensive flex time programs.

We are personally promoting the health and well-being of every child in our community, donating to child advocacy causes, participating in youth-focused community organizations and supporting family or friends who are under stress. And we are asking all Americans to answer the following question:


"How can we ensure that every child has an equal opportunity for healthy growth and development?"

We have awakened to the impact we each can have on our children when we take action – even seemingly small action – that can help all of America's children grow to become healthy, caring and contributing adults. And so we invite you to be part of something bigger than yourself, your community and our state because when we do that, we help drive our entire country's future. Everyone says they care about our nation's children, but it's time for us to awaken to the difference we can make when we do more than just say we care – when we actually take action. There is only one time when it is essential to awaken a movement for America's children. That time is *now*.



# 30 Ways to Promote Child Well-Being During National Child Abuse Prevention Month

## PARENTS

Protective Factors	Nurturing and Attachment	Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development	Parental Resilience	Concrete Supports for Parents	Social and Emotional Competence of Children	Social Connections
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>5</b> Talk to your faith community about starting a parent-support ministry.	<b>6</b> Have a family game night! Even young children can play board games on an adult's "team."	<b>7</b> Explore the world from your child's point of view.	<b>1</b> Share your personal accomplishments with others via Facebook or Twitter.	<b>2</b> Talk to friends about organizing a babysitting co-op.	<b>3</b> Establish a daily routine so your child knows what to expect.	<b>4</b> Get outside! Start a parent-child walking or biking club with neighbors.
<b>12</b> Plant a pinwheel garden with your child in your front yard, near your mail box, or on your front porch.	<b>13</b> Ask your children who is important to them.	<b>14</b> Reflect on the parenting you received as a child and how that impacts how you parent today.	<b>15</b> Make time to do something YOU enjoy.	<b>16</b> Dial "2-1-1" to find out about organizations that support families in your area.	<b>17</b> Role play emotions with your child—what do you do when you're happy, sad, or frustrated?	<b>18</b> Find and join a local parent or community café, like Circle of Parents®. <a href="http://www.circleofparents.org/">http://www.circleofparents.org/</a>
<b>19</b> Hold, cuddle, and hug your children often.	<b>20</b> Make something with your child. Arts and crafts are fun for adults, too!	<b>21</b> Find a local parenting group (e.g., MOPS). <a href="http://www.mops.org/">http://www.mops.org/</a>	<b>22</b> Talk to a trusted friend when you feel stressed, overwhelmed, or sad.	<b>23</b> Ask your school principal or PTA to host a community resource night.	<b>24</b> Teach your child to resolve conflicts peacefully.	<b>25</b> Join a Girl Scout or Boy Scout troop with your children.
<b>26</b> Host a potluck dinner with neighborhood families to swap parenting stories.	<b>27</b> Volunteer at your child's school.	<b>28</b> Spend time observing what your child can and cannot do. Discuss any concerns with your child's teacher.	<b>29</b> Treat yourself to a spa day at home: Take a bubble bath, try a facial mask, and paint your nails a new color.	<b>30</b> Organize a "Clothes Swap Potluck" to swap children clothes.	 <p>Child Welfare Information Gateway ADVANCING CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING</p> <p>ACF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p> <p>Children's Bureau ADMINISTRATION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES</p> <p>Children's Bureau <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/">https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/</a></p>	

# 30 Ways to Promote Child Well-Being During National Child Abuse Prevention Month

## PROGRAMS

Protective Factors: Community Awareness	Nurturing and Attachment	Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development	Parental Resilience	Concrete Supports for Parents	Social and Emotional Competence of Children	Social Connections
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>5</b> Put the protective factors on your outreach materials.	<b>6</b> Create a board-game library for families.	<b>7</b> Have tips handy for caregivers dealing with parenting challenges.	<b>1</b> Invite someone in to help parents learn about managing stress.	<b>2</b> Create a handout for families with community resources linked to each protective factor.	<b>3</b> Add children's books about feelings to your program's library.	<b>4</b> Organize "stroller walks" with new parents. Talk about their challenges as you walk.
<b>12</b> Plant a pinwheel garden as a reminder of the bright futures all children deserve.	<b>13</b> Arrange a kickball or soccer game for parents and kids.	<b>14</b> Talk to parents about how trauma can impact children at different developmental stages.	<b>15</b> Recognize parent accomplishments.	<b>16</b> Visit a program where you refer families, so you will know what it's like.	<b>17</b> Train your staff on how trauma and loss affect children.	<b>18</b> Encourage parents to support each other through phone trees, carpools, or playgroups.
<b>19</b> Invite community partners to an interfaith family day.	<b>20</b> Offer parents materials for a craft that they can make with their child.	<b>21</b> Talk to parents in your program about discipline alternatives.	<b>22</b> Help parents set goals and solve problems.	<b>23</b> Let parents use the center's computers for personal business (e.g., writing résumés, email).	<b>24</b> Teach kids to resolve conflicts peacefully.	<b>25</b> Create a "positive parenting club," and produce a video of parents sharing their success stories.
<b>26</b> Create a calendar of community events for families.	<b>27</b> Create a cozy "book nook" where parents can read to their children.	<b>28</b> Have a conversation with a parent about where their child is developmentally.	<b>29</b> Invite local businesses to donate services for a free "spa day" for parents.	<b>30</b> Invite a nutritionist to demonstrate how to buy and prepare healthy dinners on a low budget.		



<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/>



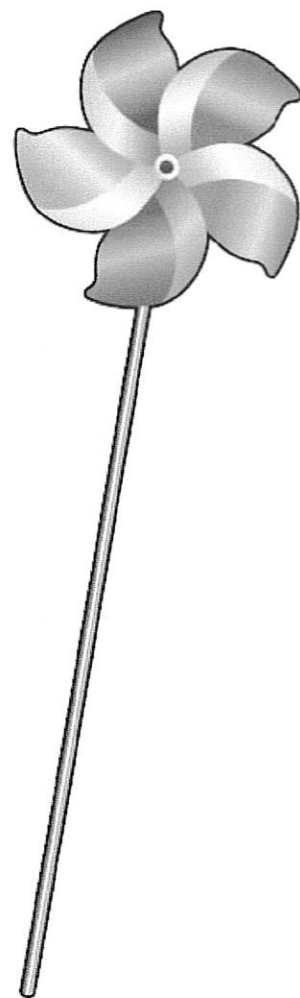
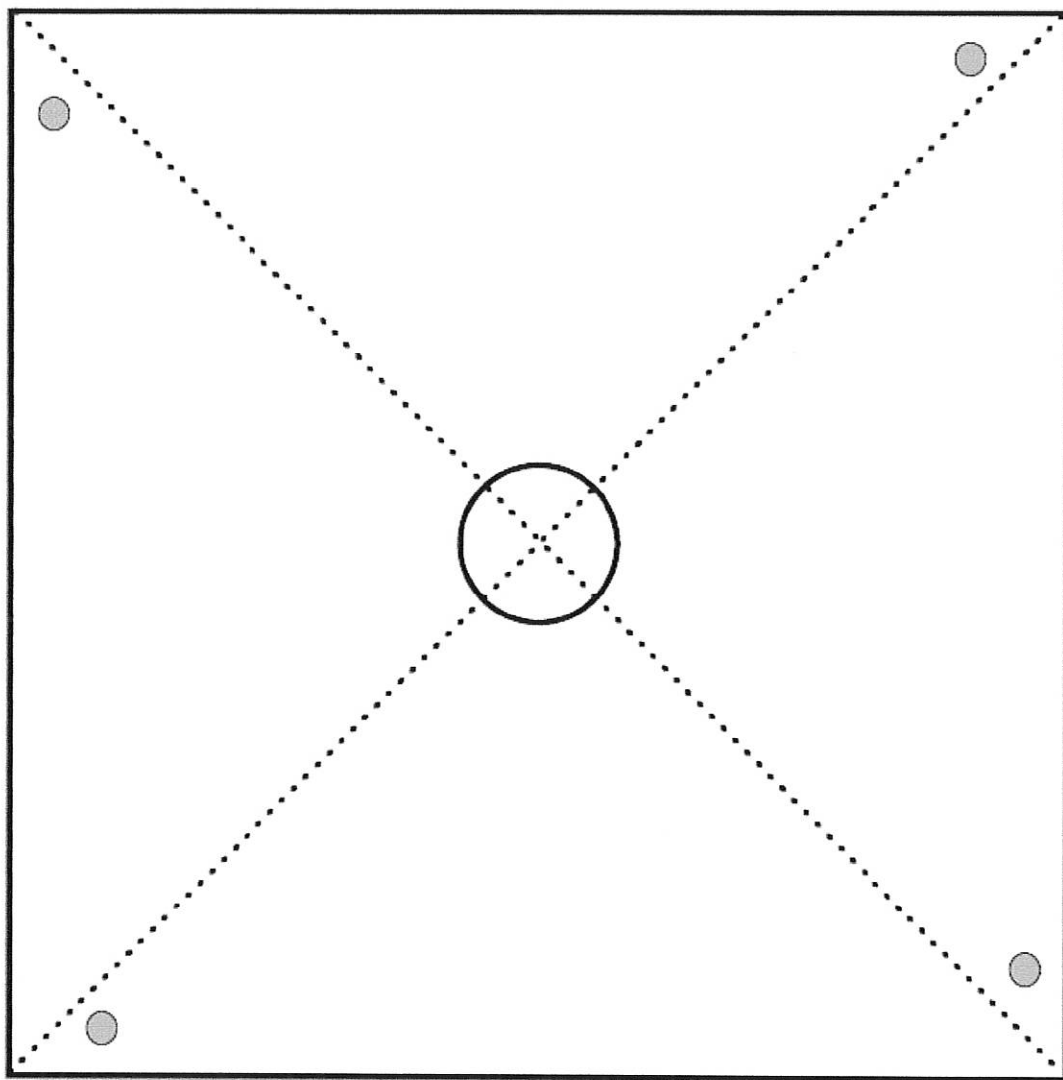
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families  
Administration on Children, Youth and Families  
Children's Bureau  
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb>



COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS

The image displays three logos. On the left is the Child Welfare Information Gateway logo, featuring a stylized house icon and the text "Child Welfare Information Gateway" with "PROTECTING CHILDREN • STRENGTHENING FAMILIES" below it. In the center is the ACF logo, consisting of a stylized figure holding a child, with "ACF" in large letters and "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES" in smaller text below. On the right is the Children's Bureau logo, featuring a stylized figure holding a child, with "Children's Bureau" in large letters and "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES" in smaller text below.

# Make Your Own Pinwheel Activity Sheet



## What you'll need:

- ▶ A pencil with eraser
- ▶ 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of construction paper
- ▶ Scissors
- ▶ Colored pencils or markers
- ▶ Paper fastener
- ▶ Plastic drinking straw

## How to make a pinwheel:

1. Print the pinwheel pattern. You can reproduce this pattern on white construction paper with a copy machine. Be sure to cut the construction paper to 8 1/2 in. by 11 in.
2. Cut-out the pinwheel on the solid lines only.
3. Decorate both sides of the construction paper pinwheel.
4. Cut the dotted lines from the four corners to the center circle. Try not to cut into the center circle.

5. Use the sharpened pencil to poke a hole through the four tiny dark circles. The pencil point also works well to poke a hole into the straw. Carefully push the pencil point through the straw about 1/2 inch from the top.
6. Make the tiny holes on the four points meet at the center circle.
7. Push the ends of the paper fastener through the holes on the pinwheel, then push the fastener through the center circle.
8. Place the straw on the back side of your pinwheel and push the ends of the fastener through the hole in the straw. Open-up the fastener by flattening the ends in opposite directions.

*Now you are ready to try-out your beautiful pinwheel.  
All you will need is a little bit of wind to make your pinwheel spin round and round. Have fun!*



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